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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 9
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

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Overall orientation

9.1 Following the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the General Assembly, in its resolution 57/7, endorsed the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as the framework within which the international community should concentrate its efforts for Africa's development, called upon the United Nations system to align its activities in Africa with the priorities of NEPAD, urged the United Nations system to foster a coherent response in coordinating its activities at the national, regional and global levels, and called upon the United Nations system to enhance its advocacy role and public information activities in support of Africa's development.

9.2 In the same resolution, the Assembly underscored the need for a structure in the Secretariat in New York to review and report on the support provided for NEPAD by the United Nations system and the international community and on the coordinated implementation of the outcomes of summit meetings and conferences as they relate to Africa. In view of this, the Assembly, in its resolution 57/300, endorsed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and entrusted to it the role of coordinating and guiding the preparation of Africa-related reports and inputs, coordinating global advocacy in support of NEPAD and coordinating the interdepartmental task force on African affairs to ensure coherence and an integrated approach for United Nations support to Africa.

9.3 In its resolution 57/7, the Assembly welcomed actions taken at the regional level to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of NEPAD. In that regard, the Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations system organizations working in Africa, which is convened by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), has also become an important mechanism for enhancing United Nations system-wide coordination and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels in support of the African Union and its NEPAD programme.

9.4 As NEPAD has been the overarching framework for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, it will continue to be a critical guiding framework for the continent's implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, NEPAD has assumed a critical role in view of the designation by the African Union of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency as a key implementing agent of the African Union Agenda 2063, the continent's ambitious 50-year framework for development, peace and security. Agenda 2063 highlights a wide range of aspirations and priority projects; its aim is to achieve an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa. Like the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan, which covers the period 2014-2023, take a people-centred approach that aims to ensure that no one is left behind by emphasizing, inter alia, agriculture, health, education, infrastructure development, gender equality and women's empowerment, nutrition, peace and security.

9.5 Africa and the development priorities set forth in the continent's overarching regional frameworks continue to be a key focus for Member States. In the political declaration on Africa's development needs, adopted in 2008 (see General Assembly

resolution 63/1), Member States noted that the full and timely achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa remained elusive and reaffirmed their commitment to addressing Africa's special needs. This was echoed in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex), in which Member States reaffirmed their commitment to the full implementation of NEPAD and underscored the key priority for the international community of supporting Africa's sustainable development efforts. In the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex), Member States recognized the importance of addressing the needs and challenges faced by African countries and reaffirmed the importance of supporting NEPAD, Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan. In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (see General Assembly resolution 70/1), Member States acknowledged the specific challenges faced by African countries and reaffirmed the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 and NEPAD, both of which they recognized as integral to the new 2030 Agenda.

9.6 While the African Peace and Security Architecture of the African Union has contributed to peace and security on the continent, several African countries continue to experience factors of instability that undermine durable peace and sustainable development. The need for a comprehensive response in promoting peace, security and development was recognized in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318). The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/291, requested the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and report to the Assembly on an annual basis on persistent and emerging challenges to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, as well as on the approach and support of the United Nations system.

9.7 The United Nations is working to further support Africa in overcoming barriers to peace through the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/302, in which the Assembly acknowledged the efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council in the areas of peace and security, including the joint annual consultative meetings between members of the two Councils. In the report of the Secretary-General entitled "The future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/357-S/2015/682)", it was noted that with most United Nations peace operations in Africa, significant African Union peace operations under way and common mediation efforts across the continent, the African Union is the key regional partner of the United Nations.

9.8 Increasingly, the international community has recognized the inextricable link between peace, security and development and the need to establish lasting conditions for peace and inclusivity as a basis for sustainable development. In Sustainable Development Goal 16, Member States committed to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, with a specific target to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere. In line with this, the fourth aspiration of Agenda 2063 is a peaceful and secure Africa, with a specific commitment to silence all guns in Africa by 2020. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will further reinforce the peace-security-development nexus in its advocacy, policy and analytical work. Furthermore, the many

overlapping priority areas in the Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan will require greater efforts to ensure coordination and coherence in their implementation by the United Nations system, African regional and subregional organizations and national bodies.

9.9 On the basis of General Assembly resolutions 66/293, 67/293 and 67/294 and the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (A/68/506), the Assembly has decided to strengthen the Office to enable it to address new and emerging challenges and opportunities at the global and regional levels and to better support Africa, particularly NEPAD, and to implement the mandate of the United Nations monitoring mechanism. This strengthening has enabled the Office to launch the monitoring mechanism, which reviews the implementation of commitments made towards Africa's development by African countries and their development partners. The monitoring mechanism, with its biennial reviews and broad consultations with regional stakeholders, will continue to play an important role in reviewing and monitoring commitments arising from, inter alia, major United Nations conferences and summits, such as the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and will also play an integral role in support of the high-level political forum on sustainable development through the monitoring and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa. In addition, the interdepartmental task force on African affairs has been strengthened to ensure further coherence and an integrated approach for United Nations support for Africa, including through involvement of the interdepartmental task force in the preparatory process of the biennial report of the monitoring mechanism.

9.10 In June 2015, the African Union adopted a successor programme to the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union, which will expire in 2016. The framework for a renewed United Nations/African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda (PAIDA) for the period 2017-2027 seeks to strengthen engagement between the United Nations and Africa's regional and subregional organizations and calls for all strategic partners to align themselves with Africa's priorities.

9.11 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa provides overall coordination and leadership to the programme, for which it will share joint responsibility with ECA and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen international cooperation in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Increased international community support for Africa's development, in general, and for NEPAD, in particular	(i) Increased number of United Nations system activities in support of Africa's development
	(ii) Increased number of international forums, activities and outputs addressing South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation in support of Africa
(b) Improved monitoring of the implementation of commitments towards Africa's development, including through regional mechanisms	(i) Increased number of monitored and assessed commitments by African countries towards meeting Africa's development needs
	(ii) Increased number of monitored and assessed commitments by Africa's development partners towards meeting Africa's development needs
(c) Improved United Nations coordination in providing support to Africa's development	Increased number of projects, programmes and activities coordinated through the interdepartmental task force on African affairs in support of Africa's development
(d) Increased international awareness of Africa's development issues	Increased number of visits to and page views on the website of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and related websites

Strategy

9.12 Responsibility for subprogramme 1 is vested in the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa. The subprogramme will ensure that Africa's development issues are effectively addressed in intergovernmental debates and adequately incorporated into the resolutions emerging from relevant processes. It will endeavour to raise international awareness of Africa's development issues through its policy, review, analytical, monitoring and advocacy activities in areas that are major African priorities and that are central to the continent's transformative development agenda, including, inter alia, agriculture, capacity-building, diversification of economies, youth empowerment, food security and nutrition, industrialization, infrastructure development, health, and peace and security, all with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

9.13 The subprogramme will seek to engage key stakeholders involved in Africa's development to raise awareness and mobilize support for Africa's development through participation, organization and engagement in key forums. It will work to strengthen coherence and coordination of United Nations efforts in support of Africa through the interdepartmental task force on African affairs. It will also strengthen its engagement with Member States, African regional and subregional organizations, the private sector, academia and civil society, including the African diaspora, to mobilize international support for Africa's development. It will continue to analyse, report on and raise awareness of the causes of conflict in African countries, monitor early warning signals and make recommendations on steps that need to be taken to address the root causes of conflict in African countries, including those of terrorism and violent extremism, and will also address the interrelationship between conflict and development on the continent.

9.14 The subprogramme will ensure that Africa remains a priority in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. In implementing the subprogramme, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will work closely with other United Nations bodies at the global, regional and subregional levels, and will continue to engage with key intergovernmental bodies, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

9.15 The Office will also work closely with Member States, the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and the United Nations system in the performance of its functions. It will work with civil society and academia, and will also work closely with the private sector to raise awareness of investment opportunities in Africa and support NEPAD in mobilizing investment for its flagship programmes and the priority areas of Agenda 2063, for which NEPAD is an implementing agent.

9.16 Furthermore, the Office will work closely with the regional economic communities, which have been highlighted as being central actors in the implementation, financing, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063, its first 10-year implementation plan and its priority projects, in conjunction with NEPAD and the African Union. In that regard, the Office will continue to strengthen its engagement with the regional economic communities, including by ensuring their continued high-level participation in the Office's major activities, such as Africa Week, an event convened annually by the Office as part of its advocacy and outreach mandate, with the aim of strengthening engagement between Member States and key African regional and subregional bodies, as well as raising awareness of the complementarities between global and continental agendas. In view of the importance attached to governance in Africa and its relation to peace, security and development, the Office will also continue to strengthen its engagement with the secretariat of the African Peer Review Mechanism through its inclusion in such activities as Africa Week and consultations relating to the United Nations monitoring mechanism.

9.17 As the secretariat of the United Nations monitoring mechanism, the Office will monitor the implementation of commitments made towards Africa's development. In that regard, the Office will mobilize the United Nations system through the interdepartmental task force on African affairs and elicit inputs from civil society, the private sector and academia in line with General Assembly resolution 66/293. The Office will also follow up on the implementation of Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan and support implementation of

PAIDA, with the aim of achieving a strengthened framework for United Nations coherence in support of Africa. In order to promote partnerships between Africa and its development partners, including North-South, South-South and triangular partnerships, and as a co-organizer of the Tokyo international conferences on African development, the Office will work to ensure the full implementation of commitments made at the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development. Furthermore, the Office will promote South-South cooperation and will support African countries in devising effective strategies to maximize the benefits from those partnerships.

9.18 In its capacity as the convener of the advocacy and communications cluster of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will work with the African Union Commission, ECA, the Department of Public Information and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency to develop a comprehensive advocacy and communications strategy for NEPAD in view of the continent's new priorities, as reflected in Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan.

Subprogramme 2
Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen United Nations system-wide support for the African Union and its Agenda 2063 and other regional priorities, including its New Partnership for Africa's Development programme, at the regional and subregional levels, within the context of the United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda (PAIDA) for the period 2017-2027, as well as strategic plans and priorities of the African Union organs and institutions

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Enhanced coherence, coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies and organizations, within the context of PAIDA, in support of the Sustainable Development Goals, the African Union Agenda 2063 and its NEPAD programme, as well as the empowerment of women at the regional and subregional levels	Increased number of joint projects implemented by the United Nations organizations, through PAIDA and in the context of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, in support of the Sustainable Development Goals, the African Union Agenda 2063 and its NEPAD programme, as well as the empowerment of women at the regional and subregional levels
(b) Enhanced capacity of regional and subregional organizations, particularly the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Peer Review Mechanism secretariat, the regional economic communities and intergovernmental organizations to design, implement and monitor their programmes	Increased number of joint capacity development projects in planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting extended to regional and subregional African organizations and institutions by the United Nations system organizations in the context of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and the subregional coordination mechanisms

Strategy

9.19 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 2 is vested in ECA. The activities covered by the subprogramme will be undertaken by the Capacity Development Division. In implementing the subprogramme, ECA will work closely with other United Nations bodies at the global, regional and subregional levels, in particular with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, the Department of Public Information, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Group and the Regional Directors' teams to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the African Union Agenda 2063 and its NEPAD programme through various mechanisms, including the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and the subregional coordination mechanisms.

9.20 Inter-agency coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies working in Africa will be carried out through the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa in support of the United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda for the period 2017-2027 and the African Union Agenda 2063, including the priorities of the NEPAD programme at the regional and subregional levels. In addition, the subprogramme will take the lead in coordinating and convening the annual meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa.

9.21 The support of United Nations organizations and agencies working in Africa for the African Union and its organs, including the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, will be focused on the implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063. Through the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, housed in ECA, joint implementation programmes and activities will be developed between the United Nations and the African Union and its organs. The strategic focus of subprogramme 2 will therefore be on strengthening inter-agency collaboration and coordination through the work of the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa on the implementation of technical cooperation activities by the United Nations organizations in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union Agenda 2063 and other priorities of Africa, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. This will entail strengthening collaboration and coordination with the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the secretariat of the African Peer Review Mechanism, the regional economic communities, the African Development Bank and other regional and bilateral organizations with a view to ensuring the provision of effective support in the context of African Union priorities, including its NEPAD programme. The subprogramme will promote and support effective, coherent and coordinated actions by United Nations agencies and organizations, including the Regional Directors' teams and the United Nations Development Group, in support of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the African Union Agenda 2063 and other priorities of the African Union, including the empowerment of women. It will also provide substantive and effective servicing of the annual meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and its subregional coordination mechanisms, including monitoring, assessing and reporting on progress in the implementation of United Nations system-wide support for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the African Union Agenda 2063 and other priorities of the African Union at the regional and subregional levels.

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To raise international support for the economic, political and social development of Africa, as well as for the efforts made by Africa and the international community to promote the economic growth and sustainable development of the region in pursuit of the goals of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Enhanced awareness of key thematic issues of NEPAD and other issues related to economic growth and sustainable development in Africa	(i) Increased number of visits to and page views on the *Africa Renewal* website and related websites
	(ii) Increased number of news items and publications (print, audio and video) picked up and reprinted or republished by the media as a result of continuing interest

Strategy

9.22 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 3 lies with the Department of Public Information. The overall strategy involves the development of global strategic communications plans on priority issues affecting Africa, including generating support in Africa and in donor countries for NEPAD and the African Union Agenda 2063 and for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and is aimed at ensuring that such plans are implemented in coordination with the rest of the Department, the United Nations Communications Group and the United Nations system as a whole, in particular with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and ECA, as well as the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa. Activities will include publication of *Africa Renewal* magazine, web-only news features and analysis, background notes, press releases and briefing papers for use by external media, both African and international. Dissemination to diverse target groups, such as youth, parliamentarians, policymakers in both government and non-governmental organizations, trade unions, civil society and academic institutions, will be achieved through direct contact with individuals and groups, including through systematic outreach to African and international media, to ensure that key players are informed of major national and international initiatives that affect the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
57/2	United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development

57/7	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/300	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
63/1	Political declaration on Africa's development needs
63/267	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
63/304	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
64/258	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
65/1	Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
65/278	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
65/284	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
66/197	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/287	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
66/288	The future we want
66/293	A monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development
67/293	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
67/294	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
67/302	Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union
68/6	Outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals

68/278	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
68/301	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
69/290	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
69/291	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Security Council resolutions

1197 (1998)	Support for regional and subregional initiatives on Africa and strengthening of coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the area of conflict prevention and maintenance of peace
2033 (2012)	United Nations-African Union cooperation

Economic and Social Council ministerial declarations

Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2013 session of the Economic and Social Council, entitled "Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals"

Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2014 session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Addressing ongoing and emerging challenges for meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for sustaining development gains in the future", and of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council on the theme "Achieving the Millennium Development Goals and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals"

Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take", and of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council on the theme "Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the high-level political forum on sustainable development after 2015"